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Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Re:

U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/010140

For: MEDICAL PROSTHETIC DEVICES AND IMPLANTS HAVING IMPROVE

BIOCOMPATIBILITY

Inventors: Staale P. Lyngstadaas, et al.

Filed: December 6, 2001 Our Ref. No.: PVZ-003

Dear Sir:

I enclose herewith for filing in the above-identified application the following:

- Information Disclosure Statement;
- 2. PTO Form 1449:
- 3. Copies of references cited in PTO Form 1449 (2); and
- A return acknowledgment postcard.

No additional costs are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, please charge any necessary fees in connection with the enclosed statement to our Deposit Order Account No. 12-0080. For this purpose, a duplicate of this sheet is attached.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on: Elizabeth A. Hanley, Es

Respectfully submitted, LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP

Elizabeth A. Hanley Registration No. 33,505 Attorney for Applicants



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In re the application of: Staale P. Lyngstadaas, et al.

Serial No.: 10/010140

Filed: December 6, 2001

For: MEDICAL PROSTHETIC DEVICES AND

IMPLANTS HAVING IMPROVED BIOCOMPATIBILITY

Attorney Docket No.: PVZ-003

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Group Art Unit: 3738

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

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Elizabeth A. Hanley)
Registration No. 33,505
Attorney for Applicants

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Applicants and their Attorney are aware of the following publications and information, listed on the attached PTO Form 1449, and in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97 hereby submit these publications for the Examiner's consideration. A copy of each cited publication is enclosed.

This statement is not to be interpreted as a representation that the cited publications are material, that an exhaustive search has been conducted, or that no other relevant information exists. Nor shall the citation of any publication herein be construed *per se* as a representation that such publication is prior art. Moreover, Applicants understand that the Examiner will make an independent evaluation of the cited publications.

Under 37 CFR § 1.97(b)(3), no additional costs are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this disclosure. If, however, a first Office Action on the merits issues in this application bearing a mailing date prior to the date of this Information Disclosure Statement, please charge the appropriate fee as required under 37 CFR §1.17(p) to our Deposit Order Account No. 12-0080.

Respectfully submitted, LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP

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EAH/MCA/alf Enclosures

3/2